

Testbed Roundup

NOAA Climate Test Bed (CTB)

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Abstract

The NOAA Climate Test Bed (CTB) was established in 2005 and sponsored by the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) and the Climate Program Office (CPO). The overall goal of the CTB is to accelerate the transition of scientific advances from the climate research community to improved NOAA climate forecasts and services. The CTB provides a testing environment for new methodologies/ model schemes/products before they are implemented in NCEP operations. The CTB supports competitive applied research and development projects, which are joined by both external researchers and NCEP scientists. The CTB Science Advisory Board (SAB) works with the broader scientific community to provide scientific guidance on CTB's priorities. The current CTB priorities include 1) to develop and implement a multi-model ensemble system that leverages the best national and international models for improved predictions on intraseasonal-to-interannual time scales; 2) to accelerate evaluation of and improvements to the operational Climate Forecast System (CFS) and to enhance its use as a skillful tool in providing NCEP's climate predictions, and 3) to provide reliable climate forecast products that incorporate state-of-the-art science and research and are responsive to the needs of users.